

Statement of Thomas Casciola

Chairman, Board of Supervisors of Cecil Township

While Cecil Township has the utmost respect for the late Gary A. Andreis, Sr. and wished to remain silent while an active court case, Moninger v. Cecil Township, et. al., progressed, recent stories appearing in various news outlets and on social media have included inaccurate statements that are prejudicing the Township's ability to defend itself. Plaintiff has not served the named Defendants with a Complaint, thus depriving them of the opportunity to formally defend themselves. This statement is necessary to mitigate the prejudicial effects of the recent adverse publicity.

In November of 2015, Ms. Jennifer Moninger approached Thomas Casciola, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Cecil Township, about placing a monument to her late father in a Cecil Township park. Chairman Casciola informed her that while her father was a good man, and a personal friend, the Township could not support a monument because her father did not play a significant role in Cecil Township. Mr. Andreis did not serve on any board or provide any volunteer services to the Township. In response, Ms. Moninger was adamant that her father deserved a monument because she claimed that he built the Township building. Mr. Casciola informed Ms. Moninger that her father had not played any role in the construction of the Township building. He suggested that she consider donating a park bench in his memory.

In December of 2015, Ms. Moninger contacted the Township and inquired about placing a bench in the park. In an email to the Township dated December 31, 2015, Ms. Moninger wrote:

"I am the daughter of Gary Andreis Sr. I would like to see if I would be allowed to have a memorial bench in honor of my dad for the park, which could maybe sit by the ball fields. I will pay for all cost of the bench and follow all rules on allowing so on be granted permission. My dad is the 3rd generation of his family, which were all from Cecil. He ran for supervisor in the Spring and built many houses in the area even the municipal building that sits here today."

The Township provided her with information relating to the costs of purchasing benches of various sizes. Ms. Moninger subsequently decided to offer a decorative tree in lieu of the bench. She presented a picture of a decorative tree with a small natural stone, the approximate size of a volleyball, with a 3" x 4" plaque attached to the Township's Parks and Recreation Board.

In an email dated July 11, 2016, Ms. Burns, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Board, referenced a picture confirming that the above-described stone "was what Jenn had forwarded to the Parks Board and the board approved." This photograph, attached to an email from Ms. Burns that was contemporaneous with the Parks and Recreation Board's approval was provided to Ms. Moninger's counsel on July 25, 2016. Accordingly, the Township denies the veracity of any statements asserting that the monument was approved by the Parks and Recreation Board.

On March 7, 2016, after a presentation by Ms. Burns, the Board approved Ms. Monginer's request. At no point did Ms. Moninger request permission or receive approval from the Parks and Recreation Board or the Board of Supervisors to install the large monument with Mr. Andreis' likeness and name inscribed.

Upon discovery that the monument did not conform with what was approved, the Township Manager requested that Ms. Moninger remove the monument and replace it with the approved stone. When she refused, the Township administration had the monument removed and safely placed in storage for her retrieval. There was no secret meeting or meeting of any kind of the Board of Supervisors to discuss this monument. And finally, the Township never discussed nor ever charged Ms. Moninger \$700 or any amount for this monument. Any reports to the contrary are false.

The Township has been and remains willing to stand by its approval of a decorative tree with a small natural stone.